

**TOWN OF NEWFIELDS SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 2020**

***Select Board Present: Chris Hutchins, Michael Sununu & Jamie Thompson
Others Include: Paul Bauer, Jeff Buxton, Michael Kessler, Sue McKinnon, Sue Schick,
Jacqui Sylvani and Amy Sununu; via WebEx – Courtney Corbell, A. Johnson, Bobby Kelly,
Caren MacAskillie, Leslie Steinhauser & Jane Walsh***

Call to order at 7:00 pm.

The Select Board reviewed and approved the following items:

Checks Dated	09/18/20:	Accounts Payable Manifest	\$ 389.16
Checks Dated	10/02/20:	Payroll Manifest	\$22,470.10
		Accounts Payable Manifest	\$ 1,514.20
		Accounts Payable Manifest	\$ 6,164.13

The CCAC members attended to discuss recycling recommendations with the Select Board. Since April the CCAC members have been meeting to discuss various recycling options for the Town. Currently, they have come up with the following options:

- Pay as you throw – buy bags and place at curbside
- Waste to Energy
- Transfer Station Partnership with other towns (Epping, Stratham & Exeter) – none of these towns are interested
- Newfields On-Site Container Pickup (Winkler Way, or lot by School)
- Continue Status Quo
- Composting

Michael appreciated their time researching various recycling options and mentioned the budget deadline. Josh replied that he expects to have things wrapped up by prior to Christmas. Michael expressed that while the end of the year would not be an ideal time to get it into budget, they should be able to figure it out. In terms of logistics, the budget would get approved, it would go out for bid, and then in late spring the option would be put into effect. He reiterated that when they speak with people to keep this in mind as it would not go into effect by January. This is, of course, if the amount can be put in the budget. If for some reason the cost is too high, or if the Board does not agree with what is proposed, it will go before the Town as a Warrant Article.

Michael also mentioned the amount of trash collected is approximately 100 tons below normal. This missing tonnage is opposite of what was expected due to the Town no longer recycling. Michael does not know whether Covid 19 has impacted the way people generate trash or if the scale was inaccurate. He also informed the committee of Waste Management's 4% increase from 142 to 147 a ton.

Susan Young was nominated to fill a vacant CCAC position. Jamie mentioned that his son-in-law may be interested in the other vacant spot.

Jeff Buxton advised the Select Board of his joint effort with Mike Todd from Excel to create a preliminary report for the Fire Station expansion which will cost approximately \$300,000. The report does not include engineering costs. Jeff continued saying the new truck will be purchased within the next couple of years. He is planning on trading in two trucks for the price of one since the Station has less personnel then in the past.

Jeff also apprised the Board of an overturned canoe found floating in the river this past weekend. In a situation such as this, one may assume someone is in need of assistance. No one was at this time, but Jeff suggested all water craft at the Town Landing be identified to ensure the owner can be contacted in future situations.

The Board acknowledged Waste Management's Collection and Transportation Agreement increasing per ton rate from \$142 to \$147.68 effective January 1, 2020.

Sue advised the Board that the Boston Post Cane will be presented to the oldest Newfields resident, Vernon Glass, on Saturday at 11:00 am outside the Town Hall.

Sue discussed the Newfields Fall Cleanup which will take place on October 17th from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm at the Newfields Water/Sewer Treatment Plant at the end of Hervey Court. This coincides with the Exeter Hazardous Waste Day. Any resident needing to dispose of hazardous items must go on our Town's Website, under the calendar, and pre-register. There will also be a list of items that will be accepted.

Win discussed the Library's Town Wide Yard Sale which will also be held on October 17th from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm.

The Library will also be hosting a Halloween Alien Invasion event on Saturday, October 31st. They would love for this theme to continue throughout the downtown area for the Trick-or-Treaters.

Amy added that the Celebration Committee also had ideas for safety guidelines for Halloween Trick or Treating which will also take place on October 31st. They would also like to possibly pass out candy. Both Amy and Jamie were inclined to have trick-or-treating from 5:00-8:00 pm to allow enough time for everyone to participate.

Chris advised the Board of Chief Liebenow's preference is to have the time from 4:00-6:00 pm to avoid renting lighting for the street.

Michael emphasized that Halloween is not a Town sanctioned event. While the Town has always had police and lights on the street to ensure everyone's safety, it is an individual activity. With the theme being alien invasion, it would make sense to have it from 5:00-8:00 pm. While he appreciates the desire to keep the lighting costs to a minimum, as a holiday, it would be worth

spending a couple of hundred dollars in terms of lighting. He feels that if people prefer not to participate, they will leave their lights off in accordance with the holiday tradition.

Bobby mentioned that he will attend the State Halloween Advisory webinar tomorrow and will advise the Board of any recommendations.

The Board asked to have the Town departments present their Budgets to the Board starting in October.

The Board acknowledged the Pawtucket Landing's Notice of Hearing scheduled for November 5th at 10:00 am at the Rockingham County Courthouse.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map that will be effective January 29, 2021. Michael will speak with the Town Planner, Glen Greenwood, to ensure the Town has the information it needs prior to taken any action regarding the letter.

Chris motioned, seconded by Michael, to sign the MS-535 for filing period ending December 31, 2019. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Michael motioned, seconded by Chris, to sign the replacement deed for cemetery plot 171. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Board reviewed the draft Encroachment Agreement with Brian Knipstein in regards to Winkler Way. The Board asked to have it sent to Brian for review.

The Board asked to follow up with the Road Agent about the washout on Deertrees Road.

Chris motioned, seconded by Michael, to accept minutes as drafted. All in favor motioned carried.

Chris motioned, seconded by Michael, to approve the 9/15/20 Select Board Meeting Minutes as drafted. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Select Board decided on the following dates for upcoming meetings:

October 13th, 27th

November 10th, 17th

December 1st, 15th and 29th (reserved for Budget only)

The Board reviewed the August and September expenditures.

Michael mentioned the upcoming Stormwater Asset Management meeting which will take place in a few weeks. Michael is planning on attending. John Hayden from Planning and a Conservation member will also be attending.

The Board requested an appointment to replace Steve Shope from the conservation committee.

The Board discussed the plans for the General Election to be held at the Newfields Elementary School on November 3rd.

Jamie asked Chris for an update with the Police department. Chris advised the Board that Officer Henrik Strand is at the full time academy, with several weeks to go.

Jamie asked if the Board will continue to take place in the smaller room. The reason for returning to the smaller room is to allow for better audio for those attending virtually. Jamie was concerned with the limit to the number of people who can attend. Michael replied that they could return to the larger room when needed. Acoustically, the smaller room is best and should avoid the audio issues from the prior months.

At 8:17 pm, Chris motioned, seconded by Michael, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kisha Therrien